

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
October 28, 2013**

The Board of County Commissioners for Lewis County, Washington, met in regular session on Monday, October 28, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. **Commissioners Bill Schulte, Edna J. Fund, and F. Lee Grose** were in attendance. **Chairman Schulte** determined a quorum, called the meeting to order and proceeded with the flag salute. **Commissioner Fund** moved to approve the minutes from the 10:00 a.m. meeting held on Monday, October 21, 2013. **Commissioner Grose** seconded the motion.

**Motion Carried 3-0**

<b>CONSENT</b>
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**Commissioner Grose** made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items two through eight. **Commissioner Grose** seconded the motion.

**1. Resolution No. 13-503 Approving warrants for payroll.**

**Commissioner Grose** stated there were a total of 484 regular warrants for a total payment against the County in the amount of \$1,991,362.21.

**2. Resolution No. 13-504 Approving an agreement with the City of Vader authorizing the transfer to Lewis County of the Vader Water System.**

**Glenn Carter, Prosecutor's Office**, stated this is a Resolution approving the proposed transfer of the Vader Water Utility to the County. On October 29, 2010, the Department of Health (DOH) of the State petitioned the Superior Court for the County to become the receiver of the Vader Water System. For approximately three years the County has operated and been the receiver of that Vader Water Utility. During the course of that time the City of Vader and Lewis County have engaged in extensive negotiations with respect to the transfer of the water utility to the County. This Commission is the first of the bodies that are being asked to approve the proposed transfer. The transfer agreement is attached to this Resolution as well as a Memorandum of Understanding. There will be further approvals required from the DOH and the Vader City Council. There is a requirement that Lewis County, Vader, and the DOH petition the Lewis County Superior Court for a hearing and approval of the proposed transaction. The transaction has a proposed closing date of December 16, 2013, which is subject to extension as may be required with respect to public participation and holding the hearing in front of the Superior Court.

**Commissioner Grose** stated this has been a very long process and he commended the Prosecutor's Office and the Public Works Department for their efforts in keeping this process going.



**3. Resolution No. 13-505 Approving a professional service agreement between Patrick Zandecki and Lewis County to serve as the Veterans Benefit Specialist.**

**John Abplanalp, Community Services Manager**, stated this agreement is a 14-month agreement and provides for a payment in the amount of \$1700.00 per month for a minimum of 1,020 hours in a 12-month period. The Veterans Benefit Specialist (VBS) provides services to local indigent veterans and/or their dependents. The VBS also provides our veterans with information and resources to help access benefits for which they may qualify. Mr. Zandecki will interview each veteran applying for assistance and help them locate resources to help them through their time of need. If they qualify, he may provide them with vouchers for food or gas or request rent, utilities, or medical bills be paid. He may also help veterans or family members to receive burial assistance.

**4. Resolution No. 13-506 Bid award for the purchase of one used wheel loader.**

**Tim Elsea, Director of Public Works**, stated a Call-to-Bid was issued by the BOCC on September 16, 2013, by Resolution No. 13-468 for the purchase of one used Wheel Loader which is due for replacement as a result of a fire on March 22, 2013, at the Area-7 County Road Shop in Randle, Washington. The proposal was advertised in the East County Journal, Daily Journal of Commerce (Portland & Seattle), and the Lewis County website. Public Works received 3 responsive bids for this project on October 1, 2013. Pape' Machinery submitted the highest scoring bid for a 2013 wheel loader with less than 12 hrs. for \$225,000.16.

**5. Resolution No. 13-507 Approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Teamsters Local No. 252, representing the Combined Group.**

**6. Resolution No. 13-508 Approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Teamsters Local No. 252, representing the Prosecutor's Office.**

**7. Resolution No. 13-509 Approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Teamsters Local No. 252, representing the Juvenile Probation and Clerical Group.**

**8. Resolution No. 13-510 Approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Teamsters Local No. 252, representing E911/Communication employees.**

**9. Resolution No. 13-511 Approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Teamsters Local No. 252, representing the Juvenile Group.**

**Archie Smith, Human Resources Administrator**, stated Items 5 through 9 are non-interest CBA that consist of Combined Group, Prosecutor's Office, Juvenile Probation and Clerical Group, E911/Communications, and Juvenile Group. The term of the agreement is for two years dating from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2014. There is a 1.5% COLA effective July 1, 2013, and step increases are provided for in the agreement. Employer Health and Welfare financial contributions will change effective



July 1, 2013, from \$865.88 per month per employee to \$900.00. Effective January 1, 2014, the monthly employer contribution will be a maximum of \$950.00. Basic housekeeping procedures were not listed as changes. These types of items generally are spelling errors, grammatical errors, and other items of similar nature. The Juvenile Probation employer insurance contribution is a little higher at \$984.16.

#### **10. Resolution No. 13-512 Approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Corrections Officers Guild.**

**Archie Smith, Human Resources**, stated the agreed duration for this contract will be three (3) years dating from 01/01/2012 to 12/31/2014. For the 2012 & 2013 calendar years, the Employer Health and Welfare contributions were left unchanged. Effective January 1, 2014, the employer/employee Health and Welfare share will move to a 95%/5% split of the WCIF 500 plan. There is no COLA for 2012, and the step increases are provided. There is a 1.5% COLA effective July 1, 2013, and the step increases are provided. There is a 2.0% COLA effective January 1, 2014, and the step increases are provided. Other issues that were addressed during negotiation are:

- Clarification of civil liability
- Clarification of disciplinary investigations
- Clarification of hours worked in relation to time off and call back
- Clarification of payroll change

#### **Motion carried 3-0**

<b>HEARING</b>
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- **Hearing: Vacation of a portion of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Dryad, WA. Vacation No. 13-005**

**Chairman Schulte** announced the hearing and went over the procedures. He asked staff for a report.

**Larry Unzelman, Public Works**, stated on August 26, 2013, in regular session, the Board of County Commissioners of Lewis County (Board), duly passed Resolution 13-458 entered upon their minutes declaring their intention to proceed to determine whether or not that certain portion of road in Lewis County named and designated as 3rd Street in Dryad should be vacated and abandoned, and ordered and directed the County Road Engineer to make an examination of 3rd Street in Dryad. On September 25, 2013, the County Road Engineer filed his report in writing with the Board setting forth all things required by law to be set forth in the engineer's report. That the Board by order duly passed on the September 30, 2013, fixed October 28, 2013, at or after the hour of 10:00 A.M., in the Commissioners' Hearing Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Historic Courthouse, Chehalis, Lewis County, Washington, as the time and place for the hearing on the report of the County Road Engineer, and that the Board duly caused notice thereof to be published and posted as required by law, and the Board now finds there to have been compliance with all legal requirements. On October 28, 2013, the vacation of a portion of the 3rd Street in Dryad came regularly on for hearing, and due proof having been made to the satisfaction of the Board by affidavit of the publication and posting of the notices of hearing, and the Board having considered the engineer's report and all



evidence relative to such vacation, now here finds this portion of 3rd Street in Dryad not to be a public necessity.

**Chairman Schulte** asked if anyone would like to speak. There were none. He closed the question and answer period and opened the formal hearing.

**Glenn Carter** asked that his previous comments be adopted into the record.

**Chairman Schulte** asked if anyone would like to speak. There were none. He closed the formal hearing and asked for a motion.

**Commissioner Fund** moved to approve Vacation No. 13-005. **Commissioner Grose** seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 3-0**

**Commissioner Grose** moved to recess this meeting to 1:30 pm. **Commissioner Fund** seconded the motion.

**Motion Carried 3-0**

<b>HEARING</b>
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**Increased tipping fees at the Lewis County Collection Facilities**

The Board came out of recess at 1:30 pm, on October 28, 2013, to hold a joint hearing with the Solid Waste Disposal District No. 1 on tipping fees.

**Chairman Schulte** announced the hearing and went over the procedures.

**Glenn Carter, Prosecutor's Office**, went over RCW 36.58.100 regarding joint hearing procedures and the capacity of the Board of County Commissioner and the Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD) Board passing the tipping fees.

**Tim Elsea, Public Works**, went over the history of the Solid Waste Disposal District. The fund balance stayed healthy until 2009 and at that time they started dipping into the reserve funds. The State Auditor's Office (SAO) noticed the fund balance was going to down and asked if there was a plan to raise the tipping fees to counteract that declining balance. The Solid Waste Advisory Committee is recommending raising the fees by \$8.00 a ton. This will put them in a situation where they will not continue to lose money every year. The recommendation is to raise the fees from \$82.00 a ton to \$90.00 a ton.

**Lee Coumbs** stated there was a sizable fund until 2009. The transfer station has done well, but the reason for the declining fund balance is because of the raise in the rent. The increase will bring up the SWDD to a breakeven point and the bonds will be paid off. They hope to not have an increase in fees for at least five years.

**Mr. Elsea** stated the Solid Waste staff has done a good job in trying to decrease costs before raising the tipping fees.

**Chairman Schulte** asked for questions.

**Commissioner Grose** asked for future plans for what the funds will be used for in the future.

**Mr. Elsea** stated that any increase in the rents be placed back in the reserve funds.

**Mr. Coumbs** stated the South County site does not look as good as it did in the past.

**Ron Averill, Centralia, WA**, asked how much of the current tipping fee goes to pay off the bond to the current transfer station. **Mr. Elsea** stated that about \$8.40 per ton is being used to pay off the bond. **Mr. Averill** asked when the bond is scheduled to be paid off. **Mr. Elsea** stated the bond is scheduled to be paid off in 2024.

**Chairman Schulte** closed this portion and opened the formal hearing. He asked if anyone would like to speak for or against the proposed tipping fees.

**Glenn Carter, Tim Elsea, and Lee Coumbs** asked that their comments be adopted into the record.

**Ron Averill, Centralia**, stated that the accumulated fund was for a purpose. Often times there is not funding set aside for maintenance, buying machinery, etc. As a result the SWAC formed three funds; one was the Operation Fund to be able to stabilize the fees for citizens. . He does not feel that the SAO understood what the SWAC was trying to do by having a reserve. The money that is being paid for rent is going back into the Solid Waste fund for future needs.

**Chairman Schulte** agreed with Mr. Averill on what the SWAC did to set aside funding for the future. He asked if we raise the fee to \$90.00 how does this relate to other entities. **Mr. Elsea** stated we are very comparable. He went over the amount that this would increase a household approximately \$5.60 per person, per year.

**Commissioner Grose** stated he does not like to increase rates, yet this seems appropriate at this time.

**Chairman Schulte** closed the hearing and asked for a motion.

**Commissioner Grose** moved to approve Resolution No. 13-513. **Commissioner Fund** seconded the motion.

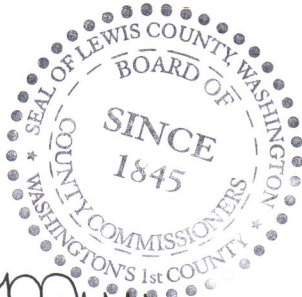
Motion carried 3-0



There being no further business, the Commissioners' public meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m. on October 28, 2013. The next public meeting will be held Monday, November 4, 2013.

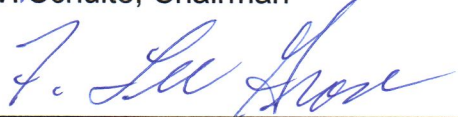
Please note that minutes from the Board of County Commissioners' meetings are not verbatim. A recording of the meeting may be purchased at the Commissioners' office.

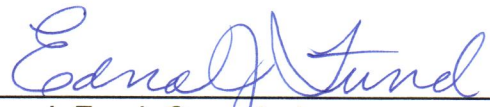
**ATTEST:**

  
Karri Muir, CMC, Clerk of the Board  
Lewis County Commissioners

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
P.W. Schulte, Chairman

  
F. Lee Grose, Commissioner

  
Edna J. Fund, Commissioner